

Trustom Pond

National Wildlife Refuge

Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Jack Reed (D)
Senator Lincoln D. Chafee (R)
Rep. James R. Langevin (D-2nd)

Contact

Charlie Vandemoer, Refuge Manager
Rhode Island National Wildlife
Refuge Complex
3769D Old Post Road, Box 307
Charlestown, RI 02813
Phone: 401/364 9124, ext. 11
Fax: 401/364 0170
TDD: 800/877 8339
E-mail: charlie_vandemoer@fws.gov

Trustom Pond National Wildlife Refuge is one of five national wildlife refuges in the Rhode Island Complex.

Purpose

Trustom Pond National Wildlife Refuge was established as an inviolate sanctuary for migratory birds, and for incidental wildlife-oriented recreation, protection of natural resources, and conservation of endangered and threatened species.

Public Use Notes

- Three observation platforms
- Three miles of nature trails
- Visitor contact station
- Frequent guided walks/tours
- Wildlife/nature photography
- Goose hunting
- Surf fishing (seasonal)

Management Activities

- Comprehensive Conservation Plan completed in spring 2002
- Land protection plan targets 1,004 acres for land acquisition
- Grassland/shrubland restoration
- Prescribed burning program
- Monitoring wildlife and habitat
- Controlling invasive exotic species
- Protecting the threatened piping plover
- New complex-wide \$2.6 million office and visitor center building in Charlestown scheduled to open in 2004

Highlights

Trustom Pond is home to over 275 bird species, 40 mammals, 20 amphibians.

The refuge has the statewide lead in the piping plover restoration program, which has the greatest production of all areas in New England.

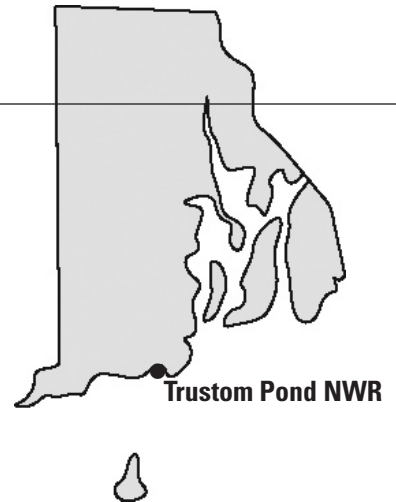
The refuge has an active and involved cadre of volunteers, and an award-winning Friends group.

The refuge enjoys strong partnerships with non-government organizations.

The refuge has active *Phragmites* and mute swan control programs.

Trustom Pond is the only undeveloped salt pond in Rhode Island.

The refuge offers an active environmental education program for school-aged children.



Issues

High cost of land acquisition

Water quality is affected by multiple landowners

Increasing public use and demands on limited staff

Reducing the spread of invasive species

Management of barrier beaches in high public-use area (Moonstone Beach)

Managing incompatible public uses on Moonstone Beach

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
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